

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 1, line 5 and ends on page 1, line 14 with the following amended paragraph:

The present application is related to U.S. patent application Ser. No. 10/348,077, entitled "Method and System for Obtaining Logical Performance Data for a Circuit in a Data Network," filed on January 21, 2003, and U.S. patent application Ser. No. 10/348,592, entitled "Method and System for Provisioning and Maintaining a Circuit in a Data Network," filed on January 21, 2003. This application is also related to U.S. patent application Ser. No. [[\_\_\_\_\_]] 10/829,509, entitled " Method And System For On Demand Selective Rerouting Of Logical Circuit Data In A Data Network," ~~bearing attorney docket number 60027.0345US01/030297,~~ filed on 04/22/2004. All of the above-referenced applications are assigned to the same assignee as the present application and are expressly incorporated herein by reference.

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 2, line 3 and ends on page 2, line 9 with the following amended paragraph:

In large-scale networks, the host and remote end devices of a network circuit may be connected across different local access and transport areas ("LATAs") which may ~~[[be]]~~ in turn be connected to one or more Inter-Exchange Carriers ("IEC") for transporting data between the LATAs. These connections are made through physical trunk circuits utilizing fixed logical connections known as Network-to-Network Interfaces ("NNIs"). Logical circuits in these networks are typically known as Permanent Virtual Circuits or PVCs because of the permanent or fixed logical connections between LATAs and IECs.

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 2, line 22 and ends on page 3, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

In accordance with the present invention, the above and other problems are solved by methods and a system for provisioning logical circuits for intermittent use in a data network. One method includes receiving at least one customer order for routing data in the data network for a predetermined time period, provisioning a logical circuit in the data network for routing the customer data during the predetermined time period, and deleting the logical circuit at the end of the predetermined time period. The method may further include provisioning the logical circuit prior to the start of the predetermined time period. The logical circuit may be provisioned during a maintenance window in the data network which occurs prior to the predetermined time period. ~~The method may further include deleting the logical circuit following the end of the predetermined time period.~~ The logical circuit may be deleted during a maintenance window following the end of the predetermined time period.

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 8, line 22 and ends on page 9, line 5 with the following amended paragraph:

The data network 2 may also include a failover network [[17]] for rerouting logical circuit data, according to an embodiment of the invention. The failover network [[17]] may include a network failover circuit including physical connections [[134]] and [[144]] and logical connections [[122]] and [[132]] for rerouting logical circuit data in the event of a failure in the network circuit between the host device 112 and the remote device 114. The failover network [[17]] will be described in greater detail in the description of FIG. 4 below. The data network 2

may also include a network management system 175 in communication with the LATA 5, the LATA 15, and the failover network [[17]]. The network management system 175 may be utilized to obtain status information for the logical and physical circuit between the host device 112 and the remote device 114. The network management system 175 may also be utilized for [[to]] rerouting logical data in the data network 2 between the host device 112 and the remote device 114. The network management system 175 will be discussed in greater detail in the description of FIG. 3 below.

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 11, line 1 and ends on page 11, line 17 with the following amended paragraph:

The network management system 175 also includes the logical element module 153 which is in communication with the switches in the data network 2 through management trunks 183. The logical element module 153 runs a network management application program to monitor the operation of logical circuits which includes receiving trap data generated by the switches [[with] which indicate the status of logical connections. The trap data may be stored in the logical element module 153 for later analysis and review. The logical element module 153 is also in communication with the network database 170 via management trunks 172 for accessing information stored in the network database 170 regarding logical circuits, such as the logical circuit identifier data. In an alternative embodiment, the logical element module 153 may also be utilized to store the logical circuit identifier data. The logical circuit identifier data may include, for example, the DLCI or VPI/VCI header information for each data frame or cell in the logical circuit including the circuit's destination and service parameters. The logical element module 153 may consist of terminals (not shown) that display a map-based graphical user

interface ("GUI") of the logical connections in the data network. An illustrative logical element module is the NAVISCORE<sup>TM</sup> system marketed by LUCENT TECHNOLOGIES, Inc. of Murray Hill, NJ.

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 12, line 8 and ends on page 13, line 2 with the following amended paragraph:

The network management system 175 further includes the network management module 176 which is in communication with the service order system 160, the network database 170, the logical element module 153, and the physical element module 155 through communications channels 172. It should be understood that in one embodiment, the network management system 176 may also be in communication with the LATA 15, the IEC 10, and the failover network [[17]]. The communications channels 172 may be on a LAN. The network management module 176 may consist of terminals (not shown), which may be part of a general-purpose computer system that displays a map-based GUI of the logical connections in data networks. The network management module 175 may communicate with the logical element module 153 and the physical element module 155 using a Common Object Request Broker Architecture ("CORBA"). As is known to those skilled in the art, CORBA is an open, vendor-independent architecture and infrastructure which allows different computer applications to work together over one or more networks using a basic set of commands and responses. The network management module 176 may also serve as an interface for implementing logical operations to provision and maintain network circuits. The logical operations may be implemented as machine instructions stored locally or as instructions retrieved from the logical and physical element modules 153 and 155. An illustrative method detailing the provisioning and maintenance of network circuits in a data

network is presented in U.S. patent application Ser. No. 10/348,592, entitled "Method And System For Provisioning And Maintaining A Circuit In A Data Network," filed on January 23, 2003, and assigned to the same assignee as this application, which is expressly incorporated herein by reference. An illustrative network management module is the Broadband Network Management System® ("BBNMS") marketed by TELECORDIA™ TECHNOLOGIES, Inc. of Morristown, NJ.

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 15, line 4 and ends on page 15, line 18 with the following amended paragraph:

The logical operations 400 continue from operation 410 to operation 415 where the network management module 176 generates utilization statistics for the provisioned logical circuit during the predetermined time period. As discussed above with respect to FIG. 3, the network management module 176 receive and store trap data from the logical element module 153 indicating the status of the logical connections comprising logical circuits in the data network 2. The network management module 176 may further be configured to present the utilization statistics to the customer. In one embodiment, the utilization statistics may be presented to the customer in a table via a visual display or map generated by the network management module 176. An illustrative system detailing the generation and presentation of utilization statistics by the network management module 176 is presented in U.S. patent application Ser. No. [[\_\_\_\_]] 10/829,509, entitled " Method And System For On Demand Selective Rerouting Of Logical Circuit Data In A Data Network," ~~bearing attorney docket number 60027.0345US01/030297~~, filed on 04/22/2004, and assigned to the same assignee as this application, which is expressly incorporated herein by reference